GUIDE TO THE SF10 CHIRIGUANO FILE

[The Chiriguano are a nation of agriculturalists, speaking a language of the Tupi-Guarani stock, and living in eastern Bolivia in South America. They have lived in the area since the 15th century, having migrated from the East shortly before that time. They are slash-and-burn agriculturalists, primarily dependent on maize, but also growing pumpkins, sweet potatoes, beans and sweet manioc. Hunting, fishing and collecting are of secondary importance.

There are seven sources in the Chiriguano File (numbers 1-2, 4-8), three of which are in English, two are translations from the Spanish (4: Nino, 8: Schmidt), one translation from the French (1: Métraux), and one a translation from the German (6: Nordenskiöld). The major sources are 1: Métraux, by a well-known Swiss anthropologist, which is a descriptive and historical analysis of technology and material culture; 4: Nino, by a Roman Catholic missionary, a general ethnography containing much useful information, as well as much religious dogma: 5: Nordenskiöld, by a noted Swedish explorer-anthropologist, a comparative study of acculturation and material culture; 6: Nordenskiöld, a generalized ethnographic description from a visit made in 1908-1909; 7: Rosen, a study by a Swedish ethnologist of Chiriguano material culture and other aspects of the culture from observations made during a visit in 1901-1902; and 8: Schmidt, a comprehensive but not exhaustive study of Chiriguano society based on a field trip made in 1935. As can be seen,

most of the data derive from the period ca. 1890-1935, with some historical information contained as well. There should be no particular focus problems in using these materials; however, the historical depth of the file may produce some problems and should be noted in using the materials. The file contains much information on material culture and subsistence patterns, less on socio-political organization. It should be adequate for most comparative purposes. One making decision has been made: information on 'great chiefs' has been filed in Category 643, information on ordinary chiefs in Category 622. The file was processed between 1964 and 1968.]